

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1-24. (Cancelled)
25. (Previously presented) A recombinant nucleic acid encoding a Mkinase protein, comprising the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
26. (Cancelled)
27. (Previously presented) A recombinant nucleic acid encoding a Mkinase protein, wherein said Mkinase comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
28. (Previously presented) A recombinant nucleic acid according to Claim 25 or 27, further comprising a fusion partner.
29. (Previously presented) An expression vector, comprising a recombinant nucleic acid according to Claims 25 or 27 operably linked to a regulatory sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the nucleic acid.
30. (Previously presented) A host cell comprising a nucleic acid according to Claims 25 or 27.
31. (Previously presented) A host cell comprising an expression vector according to Claim 29.
32. (Previously presented) A process for producing a Mkinase protein, comprising culturing a host cell according to Claim 30 or 31 under conditions suitable for expression of said Mkinase protein.

33. (Previously presented) A process according to Claim 32, further comprising recovering said Mkinase protein.